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PRESS RELEASE

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NEWS

For Immediate Use

New Jersey's 2007 Peach Crop Production Down Six Percent

New Jersey: The 2007 Garden State peach crop is estimated at 32,000 tons, down 6 percent from the previous year, and 9 percent below 2005. Cold temperatures in early April damaged some fruit, and June thunderstorms caused some fruit loss around the state. Fruit setting and sizing was rated good to excellent for this year's crop.

United States: The July 2007 forecast of U.S. Freestone peach production is 576,845 tons, down 11 percent from 2006 and 18 percent below two years ago. Nineteen of the of the top 28 peach producing states expect declines in production from last year, six states expect an increase in production, and three show no change in production from last year. Cold temperatures in early April damaged peach orchards across the middle U.S. and the Atlantic region.

Peaches, Total Production by State, 2005-2006 and Forecasted July 1, 2007

State	Ranking based on 2007 Forecast	Total Production			
		2005	2006	2007	% Change from 2006
		- Tons -			
California 1/	1	385,000	353,000	390,000	10
New Jersey	2	35,000	34,000	32,000	(6)
Washington	3	20,900	23,000	23,000	NC
Michigan	4	14,000	18,900	20,000	6
Pennsylvania	5	26,600	21,600	19,000	(12)
Georgia	6 ^{2/}	40,000	41,000	13,000	(68)
Colorado	6 ^{2/}	12,000	14,000	13,000	(7)
Texas	8	8,750	1,590	11,000	692
Idaho	9 ^{3/}	8,000	9,000	8,000	(11)
South Carolina	9 ^{3/}	75,000	60,000	8,000	(87)
New York	11	4,250	7,000	6,300	(10)
United States	--	700,550	651,120	576,845	(11)

1/ Freestone variety 2/ Georgia and Colorado's ranking ties. 3/ Idaho and South Carolina's ranking ties. Source: NASS – Crop Production, July 2007